

EXHIBIT B

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

CLRB HANSON INDUSTRIES, LLC,)
etc., et al.,)
)
Plaintiffs,)
)
v.) Case No.
) 05-03639 JW
GOOGLE, INC.,)
)
Defendant.)
)

DEPOSITION OF HOWARD STERN

August 16, 2006

227871



(310) 207.8000	Los Angeles	(916) 922.5777	Sacramento	(818) 702.0202	San Fernando Valley
(949) 955.0400	Orange County	(408) 885.0550	San Jose	(858) 455.5444	San Diego
(415) 433.5777	San Francisco	(951) 686.0606	Inland Empire	(760) 322.2240	Palm Springs

1
2 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
3 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
4 SAN JOSE DIVISION

5 -----x
6 CLRB HANSON INDUSTRIES, LLC d/b/a
7 INDUSTRIAL PRINTING, and HOWARD
8 STERN, on behalf of themselves and
9 all others similarly situated,

10 Plaintiffs,

11 v.
12 GOOGLE, INC.,

13 Case No.
14 05-03639 JW

15 Defendant.

16 -----x

17 August 16, 2006

18 11:19 a.m.

19

20 VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION of HOWARD
21 STERN, taken by Defendant, pursuant to
22 notice, held at the offices of Thacher
23 Proffitt & Wood, 2 World Financial
24 Center, New York, New York, before
25 Amy E. Sikora, CRR, CSR, RPR, Certified
 Realtime Reporter, Certified Shorthand
 Reporter, Registered Professional
 Reporter, and Notary Public within and
 for the State of New York.

1
2 A P P E A R A N C E S:

3 WOLF POPPER LLP

4 Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class

5 845 Third Avenue

6 New York, New York 10022

7 BY: LESTER L. LEVY, ESQ.

8 MICHELE F. RAPHAEL, ESQ.

9 PERKINS COIE LLP

10 Attorneys for Defendant

11 180 Townsend Street

12 San Francisco, CA 94107-1909

13 BY: DAVID T. BIDERMAN, ESQ.

14 M. CHRISTOPHER JHANG, ESQ.

17 ALSO PRESENT:

18 THOMAS DELVECCHIO, Videographer

1 H. Stern
11:34 2 Q. You're going to follow the
11:34 3 instruction; right?
11:34 4 A. Yes.
11:34 5 Q. All right. Okay. Let's see.
11:34 6 Okay.
11:34 7 And no deposition testimony.
11:34 8 Trial testimony?
11:34 9 A. No.
11:34 10 Q. Okay. And the business that you
11:34 11 were advertising on the Google AdWords
11:34 12 account, what was that business?
11:34 13 A. It was called
11:34 14 homeworksolver.net.
11:35 15 Q. Okay. What's that?
11:35 16 A. It assists people with their
11:35 17 homework problems.
11:35 18 Q. Okay. And that's a business you
11:35 19 run out of your home?
11:35 20 A. A sideline business, yes.
11:35 21 Q. Okay. And anybody else involved
11:35 22 in that business?
11:35 23 A. No.
11:35 24 Q. Okay. And you use the Google
11:35 25 AdWords program to advertise for that; right?

1 H. Stern
13:01 2 A. Yes. That's the percent the
13:01 3 cost exceeded the daily budget.
13:01 4 Q. Okay. And these campaigns --
13:01 5 did the campaign run every day?
13:01 6 A. No.
13:01 7 Q. Okay. You had paused your
13:01 8 campaign; is that correct?
13:01 9 A. Yes.
13:01 10 Q. And how often do you pause your
13:01 11 campaign?
13:01 12 A. I pause it every day that I have
13:01 13 it running, and I may keep it paused until I
13:01 14 restart the campaign.
13:01 15 Q. And why do you pause the
13:02 16 campaign?
13:02 17 A. To prevent the ads from
13:02 18 appearing.
13:02 19 Q. And is there any particular
13:02 20 reason why you pause it on certain days
13:02 21 versus others?
13:02 22 A. I pause it on the weekends
13:02 23 because I don't think people are going to be
13:02 24 responding, and I'm not available to work on
13:02 25 these problems on the weekends.

1 H. Stern
13:02 2 Q. Any other times?
13:02 3 A. No.
13:02 4 Q. So typically you just pause it
13:02 5 on the weekends, is that fair to say?
13:02 6 A. Most of the time I pause them on
13:02 7 the weekends. I might pause it, if I'm going
13:02 8 to be out of my home on vacation.
13:02 9 Q. Any other reasons?
13:02 10 A. I can't think of other reasons
13:02 11 right now, but there may be other reasons.
13:02 12 Q. And the amount of the -- that
13:02 13 you reflect as cost, is that taken from the
13:03 14 AdWords program which has an entry that
13:03 15 defines cost?
13:03 16 A. Probably the field that's the
13:03 17 daily cost.
13:03 18 Q. Okay. And have you made any
13:03 19 effort to see whether the cost that appears
13:03 20 on the -- under the entry described as "Cost"
13:03 21 in the AdWords program corresponds to the
13:03 22 charges against your credit card?
13:03 23 A. I've made an attempt, but it's
13:03 24 complicated, because I get billed on a day
13:03 25 that's not the end of the month. So the June

1 H. Stern

14:40 2 A. I don't recall with any

14:40 3 certainty that I recall an e-mail

14:40 4 confirmation. I mean, I can't say for a fact

14:40 5 that I do or not. I know that I get

14:40 6 something from my e-mail provider, and I

14:40 7 don't want to confuse the two.

14:41 8 In other words, every month I

14:41 9 get a statement saying, you know, your ISP is

14:41 10 charging you whatever. I don't think I get

14:41 11 that from Google. I think it just shows up

14:41 12 on my credit card.

14:41 13 Q. Oh, and by the way, just an

14:41 14 aside. Have you ever used anyone to help

14:41 15 optimize your advertising campaign?

14:41 16 A. No. None whatsoever. No.

14:41 17 Q. And going back to this e-mail,

14:41 18 on 9 October 2003, you wrote to Google and

14:41 19 said, "I have a \$10-a-day budget, but on

14:41 20 10/8/03 the cost was over 15. I thought the

14:41 21 listings would go off line once the budget

14:41 22 was reached. What happened?"

14:41 23 Do you see that?

14:41 24 A. Yes, I do.

14:41 25 Q. And then the response came on

1 H. Stern

14:41 2 10 October 2003. And you were told by Google
14:41 3 that, among other things, that "As traffic is
14:42 4 never constant from day to day, it is
14:42 5 possible that you may accrue charges above or
14:42 6 below your set limit."

14:42 7 Do you see that?

14:42 8 A. Yes.

14:42 9 Q. And that "Our system makes sure
14:42 10 that in a given billing period, you are never
14:42 11 charged more than the number of days in that
14:42 12 month multiplied by your daily budget. That
14:42 13 amount equals your monthly budget."

14:42 14 Do you see that?

14:42 15 A. Yes.

14:42 16 Q. "For clicks accrued over your
14:42 17 daily budget, you will see an overdelivery
14:42 18 credit on the billing summary page under 'My
14:42 19 Account' tab. This credit will appear at the
14:42 20 end of your billing period."

14:42 21 Is that correct?

14:42 22 A. I see that, yes.

14:42 23 Q. And your best recollection is,
14:42 24 you've looked on the billing summary page
14:42 25 under the "My Account" tab and have not seen

1 H. Stern
14:42 2 overdelivery credits?
14:42 3 A. Yes.
14:42 4 Q. And after you were told by
14:43 5 Google that you could accrue charges above
14:43 6 or below your set limit, you continued to use
14:43 7 the Google program; correct?
14:43 8 A. Yes, I continued to use it.
14:43 9 It's being used possibly today, yes.
14:43 10 Q. Okay. And it is correct to say
14:43 11 that you understood, certainly as of
14:43 12 10 October 2003, that you could accrue
14:43 13 charges above or below your set limit?
14:43 14 A. I never thought that I would be
14:43 15 billed for them. Accruing and being charged
14:43 16 for them are two different things. I saw
14:43 17 that I was accruing charges over my daily
14:43 18 budget. I never thought that I would be
14:43 19 billed for those, especially since I never
14:43 20 received any overdelivery credits. I was
14:43 21 both accruing and being charged for more than
14:43 22 my daily budgets every single -- many times.
14:44 23 Q. Okay. And then, with respect to
14:44 24 the -- and, in fact, on October 21, which was
14:44 25 11 days after you received this

1 H. Stern

14:47 2 Q. There's -- if you go to the

14:47 3 second page under that tab 2 at the bottom,

14:47 4 where you wrote to Google on Wednesday,

14:47 5 October 22, 2003. Do you see that down at

14:48 6 the bottom?

14:48 7 A. Yes, I do.

14:48 8 Q. And you state that, "My

14:48 9 understanding of a daily budget is very

14:48 10 simple. Daily costs not to exceed \$10. I

14:48 11 don't expect to pay more on some days to

14:48 12 compensate for days that it costs less than

14:48 13 \$10. I'm not trying to meet a monthly

14:48 14 target, rather, a daily target," et cetera.

14:48 15 Do you see that?

14:48 16 A. Yes, I do.

14:48 17 Q. Okay. And then -- I want to

14:48 18 make sure I've got this in chronological

14:48 19 order. Then on 10/22/03, I believe, you're

14:48 20 going to have to help me sort this out,

14:48 21 somebody wrote, "Hello Howard. Bradley."

14:48 22 Do you see that?

14:48 23 A. Yeah, yeah, I see that, yes.

14:48 24 Q. Now, is that a response to -- do

14:48 25 you understand that to be a response to your

1 H. Stern
14:48 2 e-mail or is that one that prompted your
14:48 3 e-mail, if you look at it?
14:49 4 A. I'd like to -- I'd like to think
14:49 5 it's a response, but I can't say for sure.
14:49 6 Because he's disagreeing with my -- with the
14:49 7 billing system, and that's what I'd just done
14:49 8 in my e-mail. I wouldn't have, you know,
14:49 9 written him something after he's told me I
14:49 10 disagree with it.
14:49 11 Q. Okay. Fair enough. So in other
14:49 12 words -- okay. And he states, he, Bradley,
14:49 13 states in the middle of this e-mail, "In
14:49 14 general, we try to keep your daily cost
14:49 15 fluctuation to no more than 20 percent above
14:49 16 your daily budget."
14:49 17 Do you see that reference?
14:49 18 A. Wait, wait. What page are you
14:49 19 on?
14:49 20 Q. Pardon me.
14:49 21 A. Are you on the first page?
14:49 22 Q. No. I'm on page 3 of 12.
14:49 23 A. Oh, okay. Yeah, I see that.
14:50 24 Right.
14:50 25 Q. "We try to keep your daily costs

1

C E R T I F I C A T E

2 STATE OF NEW YORK)

3 :ss

4 COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

5 I, AMY E. SIKORA, CRR, CSR, RPR, a
6 Certified Realtime Reporter, Certified
7 Shorthand Reporter, Registered Professional
8 Reporter and Notary Public within and for the
9 State of New York, do hereby certify that the
10 foregoing deposition of HOWARD STERN was taken
11 before me on the 16th day of August, 2006;

12 That the said witness was duly
13 sworn before the commencement of the testimony;
14 that the said testimony was taken
15 stenographically by me and then transcribed.

16 I further certify that I am not
17 related by blood or marriage to any of the
18 parties to this action nor interested directly
19 or indirectly in the matter in controversy; nor
20 am I in the employ of any of the counsel in
21 this action.

22 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
23 set my hand this 26th day of August, 2006.

Amy Sikora

25 AMY E. SIKORA